



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

#7/a  
J. Douglas

**In Re Application of:** Paul H. Burmeister, Charles L. Euteneuer,  
Brian J. Brown, Paul J. Fordenbacher,  
Anthony C. Vrba

**Serial No:** 08/737,492

**International Filing Date:** 05/18/1995

**For:** IMPROVED TISSUE SUPPORTING  
DEVICES

**RECEIVED**

**MAR 10 1998**

**GROUP 3300**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**Docket No.: S63.2-6252**

**AMENDMENT**

In response to the Official Action mailed October 16, 1997, please amend the above-titled application as follows:

**In The Specification:**

At page 3, line 23, please delete "8-11" and insert in place thereof -- 8a, 8b, 9a, 9b, 10a, 10b, 10c, 10d, 11a and 11b --.

At page 5, line 5 of the specification, please delete "substantially" and insert in place thereof --substantial--.

**In The Claims:**

Please add new claim 20 as follows:

--20. A permanent self-expanding stent for providing permanent tissue support, said stent having a generally tubular body of a predetermined fabricated diameter and being comprised, at about normal body temperatures, of a first portion comprised of a shape-memory, superelastic, austenitic alloy and a second portion comprised of a shape memory, martensitic alloy; the shape-memory, superelastic austenitic alloy portion having a transition